



**Mission of the Four Motors within  
the Framework of the EU Strategy for  
the Danube Region**

**Misija Četiri motora Evrope  
u okviru Strategije Evropske unije  
za Dunavski region**

**JOINT COMMUNICATION  
OF THE REGIONS OF THE FOUR MOTORS FOR EUROPE AND  
THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF VOJVODINA, REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
NOVI SAD, AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF VOJVODINA, REPUBLIC OF SERBIA,  
1 JULY 2013**

The regions of the Four Motors for Europe (hereinafter the "Four Motors") and the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (hereinafter "APV"), Republic of Serbia, jointly state:

In their Final Declaration adopted on 1 July 2013 in Novi Sad, the Four Motors for Europe affirm that they see the Danube Region as a part of the more advanced process of European integration in the 21st century and express their common desire to accelerate the common development perspective for the regions based on the Danube basin;

They acknowledge that solidarity and cooperation in Europe will establish the conditions for the EU member states and regions and future member states and regions to compete in global markets and to promote employment, innovation, research and development, education and social integration;

They recognize that intensifying regional institutional integration plays an important role in deepening and accelerating the process of regional economic integration;



The Four Motors acknowledge the efforts made by the Republic of Serbia to meet European Union membership criteria. In view of this, the Four Motors hereby state their willingness to support the efforts of the Western Balkan regions, to draw closer to the European Union.

The Four Motors recognize that AP Vojvodina is a region which would need, in the next 7 to 10 years, institutional help in order to prepare its regional administration for the obligations as a regional member of the EU; they hereby express their willingness to share experiences, institutional solutions, knowledge and transfer of know how. Of particular interest are areas such as the usage of EU structural and cohesion funds, exchanges on regional and municipal governance, developing of projects and the fostering of business ties.

To this end, the Four Motors and APV confirm their intention to broaden their cooperation, taking into account the results and insights gained from the various points on the overall mission programme, focusing on the following areas:

- 1. Regional innovation strategies and cluster management, technology transfer and support for innovation**

The Four Motors and APV hereby express their willingness to work together, in particular in the fields of innovation strategies, cluster management, technology transfer and support for innovation. With regard to the leading role of the Four Motors in these fields, Baden-Wuerttemberg within its presidency of the Four Motors expresses its willingness to receive delegations from APV and to present its relevant organisations. In this context, Baden-Wuerttemberg and APV state that they consider Priority Area 7, "To develop the knowledge society" and Priority Area 8, "To support the competitiveness of enterprises, including cluster development" of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region as possible starting points for joint projects. They kindly invite the Four Motors partners to participate in these projects to the extent permitted by the relevant national law.

## 2. Developing potential for biomass

The Four Motors hereby express their willingness to connect with clusters and networks in the various regions, related to the field of ecotechnology (bionenergy), including biomass.

## 3. Exchanging best practice ideas in cross-border cooperation

The Four Motors welcome the varied ways in which APV is dedicated to cross-border cooperation in the Danube region. The Four Motors and APV thus express their willingness to support the respective knowledge of ideas for especially fostering cross-border cooperation.

Baden-  
Württemberg

Generalitat de  
Catalunya

Regione  
Lombardia

Région Rhône-  
Alpes

Autonomous Province of Vojvodina